Re-Issue Appln No. 09/995,483
Amdt date March 18, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 9, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Cancel claims 58-81, amend claims 48 and 49 and add claims 82-113 as follows:

48. (Twice Amended) An insert having an annular section for use with a cap for capping a bottle having a rim defining a bottle mouth, the insert allowing for the venting of gases generated in a bottle when the cap is capping the bottle, the annular section defining an opening and comprising:

a first surface opposite a second surface; and

a groove formed on the first surface, wherein when the cap is capping the bottle, the groove extends beyond two locations external of the rim, and wherein the insert opening extends through an entire thickness of the insert.

49. (Twice Amended) An insert having an annular section for use with a cap for capping a bottle having a rim defining a bottle mouth, the insert allowing for the venting of gases generated in a bottle when the cap is capping the bottle, the annular section defining an opening and comprising:

a first surface opposite a second surface; and

a groove formed on the first surface, wherein when the cap is capping the bottle, the groove extends beyond two locations external of the rim, wherein the opening extends

through an entire thickness of the insert, and wherein the insert is made of plastic.

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82. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a neck having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap having a top portion having an inner surface and an annular wall having an inner surface and extending from the top portion, the annular wall surrounding the rim; and

an insert having an annular section, the annular section being sandwiched between the rim and the cap, the insert allowing for the venting of gases generated in the bottle, the annular section defining an opening and comprising,

a first surface opposite a second surface, and

a groove formed on the first surface, wherein the groove extends beyond two locations external of the rim, and wherein the insert opening extends through the entire insert.

83. (New) A system as recited in claim 82 wherein the insert is made of plastic.

84. (New) An insert having an annular section for use with a cap for capping a bottle having a rim defining a bottle mouth, the insert allowing for the venting of gases generated in a bottle when the cap is capping the bottle, the annular section defining an opening and comprising:

a first surface opposite a second surface; and

a non-linear path formed on the first surface, wherein when the cap is capping the bottle, the path extends beyond two locations of the rim, wherein the insert opening extends through the entire insert, and wherein said path provides a passage for the venting of gases.

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85. (New) An insert as recited in claim 84 wherein when the cap is capping the bottle the path extends beyond two locations external of the rim.

86. (New) An insert as recited in claim 84 wherein the insert is made of plastic.

87. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a neck having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap having a top portion having an inner surface and an annular wall having an inner surface and extending from the top portion, wherein when the cap is capping the bottle neck a first gas path is formed between the outer surface of the bottle neck and the inner surface of the annular wall;

a venting member sandwiched between the cap inner surface and the rim, the venting member having an annular section defining an opening extending through the entire venting member, the annular section having a first surface opposite a second surface; and

a second non-linear gas path defined across the first surface, wherein gas in the bottle escapes via the second gas path to the first gas path.

88. (New) A system as recite in claim 87 wherein the first gas path extends to the opening.

89. (New) A system as recited in claim 87 wherein the venting member further comprises a third non-linear gas path defined across the first surface, wherein gas from the bottle escapes via the third non-linear gas path to the first gas path.

90. (New) A system as recited in claim 89 wherein both the second and third non-linear gas paths extend to the opening.

91. (New) A system as recited in claim 87 wherein the first surface faces the inner surface.

92. (New) A system as recited in claim 87 wherein the second non-linear gas path extends beyond two locations of the rim.

93. (New) A system as recited in claim 87 wherein the second non-linear gas path extends beyond two locations external of the rim.

94. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap capping the bottle and having a top portion and an annular wall extending from the top portion and surrounding the rim, the top portion having an inner surface, wherein a first gas path is defined between the annular wall and the rim; and

a second non-linear gas path formed on the cap inner surface, wherein gas formed in the bottle escape via the second gas path to the first gas path.

95. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising a third non-linear gas path formed on the inner surface, wherein gas formed on in the bottle escape via the third gas path to the first gas path.

96. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap capping the bottle and having a top portion and an annular wall extending from the top portion and surrounding the rim, the top portion having an inner surface;

a first groove on the inner surface extending from a location external of the rim to a location at least under the rim; and

a second groove on the inner surface connected to the first groove and extending at an angle relative to the first groove, wherein said first and second grooves define a path for gas generated inside the bottle to travel.

97. (New) A system as recited in claim 96 further comprising a third groove on the inner surface connected to the second groove and extending at an angle relative to the second groove wherein the first, second and third grooves define a path.

98. (New) A system as recited in claim 97 further comprising a fourth groove on the inner surface connected to the third groove and extending at an angle relative to the third

groove wherein the first, second, third and fourth grooves define a path.

99. (New) A system as recited in claim 98 further comprising a fifth groove on the inner surface connected to the fourth groove and extending at an angle relative to the fourth groove wherein the first, second, third, fourth and fifth grooves define a path.

100. (New) A system as recited in claim 99 wherein at least two of said grooves are perpendicular to each other.

101. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap capping the bottle and having a top portion and an annular wall extending from the top portion and surrounding the rim, the top portion having an inner surface; and

a plurality of grooves on the inner surface, wherein the plurality of grooves are connected to each other, wherein each groove extends at an angle relative to another groove, wherein one groove extends to a location external of the rim and another groove extends to a location internal of the rim, and wherein said grooves define a path through which gas generated in the bottle escapes.

102. (New) A system as recited in claim 101 wherein said plurality of grooves are connected sequentially.

103. (New) A system as recited in claim 101 wherein said plurality of grooves comprises at least three grooves.

104. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap capping the bottle and having a top portion and an annular wall extending from the top portion and surrounding the rim, the top portion having an inner surface;

an insert between the inner surface and the rim, the cap having a first surface opposite as second surface;

a first groove on the first surface extending from a location external of the rim to a location at least under the rim; and

a second groove on the first surface connected to the first groove and extending at an angle relative to the first groove, wherein said first and second grooves define a path for gas generated inside the bottle to travel.

105. (New) A system as recited in claim 104 further comprising a third groove on the first surface connected to the second groove and extending at an angle relative to the second groove wherein the first, second and third grooves define a path.

106. (New) A system as recited in claim 105 further comprising a fourth groove on the first surface connected to the third groove and extending at an angle relative to the third

groove wherein the first, second, third and fourth grooves define a path.

107. (New) A system as recited in claim 106 further comprising a fifth groove on the first surface connected to the fourth groove and extending at an angle relative to the fourth groove wherein the first, second, third, fourth and fifth grooves define a path.

108. (New) A system as recited in claim 107 wherein at least two of said grooves are perpendicular to each other.

109. (New) A system as recited in claim 104 wherein the insert comprises an opening formed through the entire insert thickness, said opening being internal of the rim.

110. (New) A vented bottle cap system comprising:

a bottle having a rim defining a mouth;

a cap capping the bottle and having a top portion and an annular wall extending from the top portion and surrounding the rim, the top portion having an inner surface;

an insert between the inner surface and the rim; and

a plurality of grooves formed on the insert, wherein the plurality of grooves are connected to each other, wherein each groove extends at an angle relative to another groove, wherein one groove extends to a location external of the rim and another groove extends to a location internal of the rim, and wherein

said grooves define a path through which gas generated in the bottle escapes.

111. (New) A system as recited in claim 110 wherein said plurality of grooves are connected sequentially.

112. (New) A system as recited in claim 110 wherein the insert comprises an opening formed through the entire insert thickness, said opening being internal of the rim.

113. (New) A system as recited in claim 101 wherein said plurality of grooves comprises at least three grooves.